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SUBJECT: MGKV01: KOSOVO MONITORING GROUP SITUATION REPORT NO. 05

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SEVERAL COUNTRIES RECOGNIZE KOSOVO  
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11. (U) European Union: France, Italy, and the UK recognized Kosovo independence. German FM Steinmeier said Germany and 16 other EU members would do so in the coming weeks. (Reuters)

12. (SBU) Turkey: FM Babacan said Turkey has decided to recognize Kosovo. (Embassy Ankara/EUR telcon, Reuters)

13. (SBU) Albania: PM Berisha announced Albania would appoint an ambassador. Berisha noted Albania recognized Kosovo in 1991. (Kosovo MG/Embassy Tirana e-mail)

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COUNTRIES THAT PLAN TO RECOGNIZE  
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14. (U) Austria: FM Plassnik said she would ask for authorization February 20 to recognize Kosovo formally. (Austrian Press Agency)

¶5. (U) Czech Republic: European Affairs Minister Vondra said the Czech Republic needed time to recognize Kosovo. (Reuters)

¶6. (SBU) Malaysia: The Malaysian Embassy in Washington reports Malaysia will recognize Kosovo independence soon. (Kosovo MG/EUR telcon)

¶7. (SBU) Kuwait: OIC SYG Ihsanoglu welcomed Kosovo independence as an asset to the Muslim world. Kuwait made clear its intention to recognize in coordination with the Gulf Cooperation Council. (Kosovo MG/Embassy Kuwait e-mail)

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COUNTRIES NOT RECOGNIZING KOSOVO  
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¶8. (U) Slovakia: FM Kubis said "Slovakia does not see a way to recognize Kosovo." (Reuters)

¶9. (U) Spain: FM Moratinos said Kosovo's declaration violated international law and Spain would not recognize independence. (Reuters)

¶10. (U) Greece, Romania, Cyprus, and Georgia remain opposed to Kosovo independence. (Reuters)

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SERBIA RECALLS AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON  
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¶11. (U) Serbian PM Kostunica characterized recognition of Kosovo independence as a continuation of NATO's aggression. (Reuters)

¶12. (U) Minimize considered.  
RICE